

Message Text

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AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 164740

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, XH, NATO

SUBJECT: ITEMS FOR JUNE 29 ECONADS MEETING

REFS: USNATO 6427, USNATO 6387

1. PROPOSED ITEMS FOR 1978-79 WORK PROGRAM WHICH DEPART-
MENT AND OTHER INTERESTED AGENCIES BELIEVE MIGHT BE
MOST PAINLESSLY DROPPED ARE, IN ORDER OF EXPENDABILITY:
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(A) TRANSPORTATION, (B) AGRICULTURAL TRENDS AND
PROBLEMS, (C) ENERGY, (D) CMEA INTEGRATION AND PROSPECTS
FOR THE 1980S. THERE IS NO INTEREST ON POSSIBLE
TRANSPORTATION SESSION HERE. THEME IS TOO BROAD AND
IT IS GENERALLY REGARDED AS LOW PRIORITY ITEM.
AGRICULTURAL TRENDS HAS EVOKED ONLY LUKEWARM RESPONSE AS
TOPIC FOR REINFORCED MEETING WHILE A MEETING ON

ENERGY APPEARS TO BE REDUNDANT. WHILE THERE IS SOME INTEREST IN PROSPECTS FOR CMEA INTEGRATION THERE FEELING IS THAT THIS TOPIC SHOULD BE GIVEN MORE SPECIFIC FOCUS. UNABLE TO OBTAIN COMMITMENTS FOR U.S. PAPERS ON ANY OF ABOVE THEMES.

2. U.S. WOULD BE PREPARED TO PROVIDE ADVANCE CONTRIBUTIONS FOR SESSIONS ON SOVIET BALANCE OF PAYMENTS, EAST-WEST COMMERCIAL RELATIONS, SOVIET DEFENSE EXPENDITURES,

AND ALMOST CERTAINLY BE ABLE TO SUPPLY PAPERS FOR PROPOSED MEETINGS ON ARMS DELIVERIES TO THIRD WORLD, SOVIET MERCHANT FLEET AND COMMUNIST AID TO LDCS.

3. CONSENSUS OF U.S. EXPERTS IS THAT JUNE IS BEST MONTH FOR FOLLOW UP ON SOVIET DEFENSE EXPENDITURES. IF THERE IS STILL INTEREST IN HAVING DISCUSSION OF NON SOVIET WARSAW PACT DEFENSE EXPENDITURES THIS TOPIC COULD BE BEST HANDLED BY EXTENDING THIS JUNE MEETING FOR AN ADDITIONAL DAY.

4. GALLEY PROOFS FOR UPCOMING JEC COMPENDIUM ON CHINA WILL ONLY BE AVAILABLE AFTER JULY 1. WHILE WE HAVE REQUESTED ARTICLES FROM LIBRARY OF CONGRESS BEST WE WILL BE ABLE TO DO IS SEND COPIES OF RELEVANT ARTICLES WITH ONE OF THE WASHINGTON CONFIDENTIAL

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PARTICIPANTS. VANCE

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